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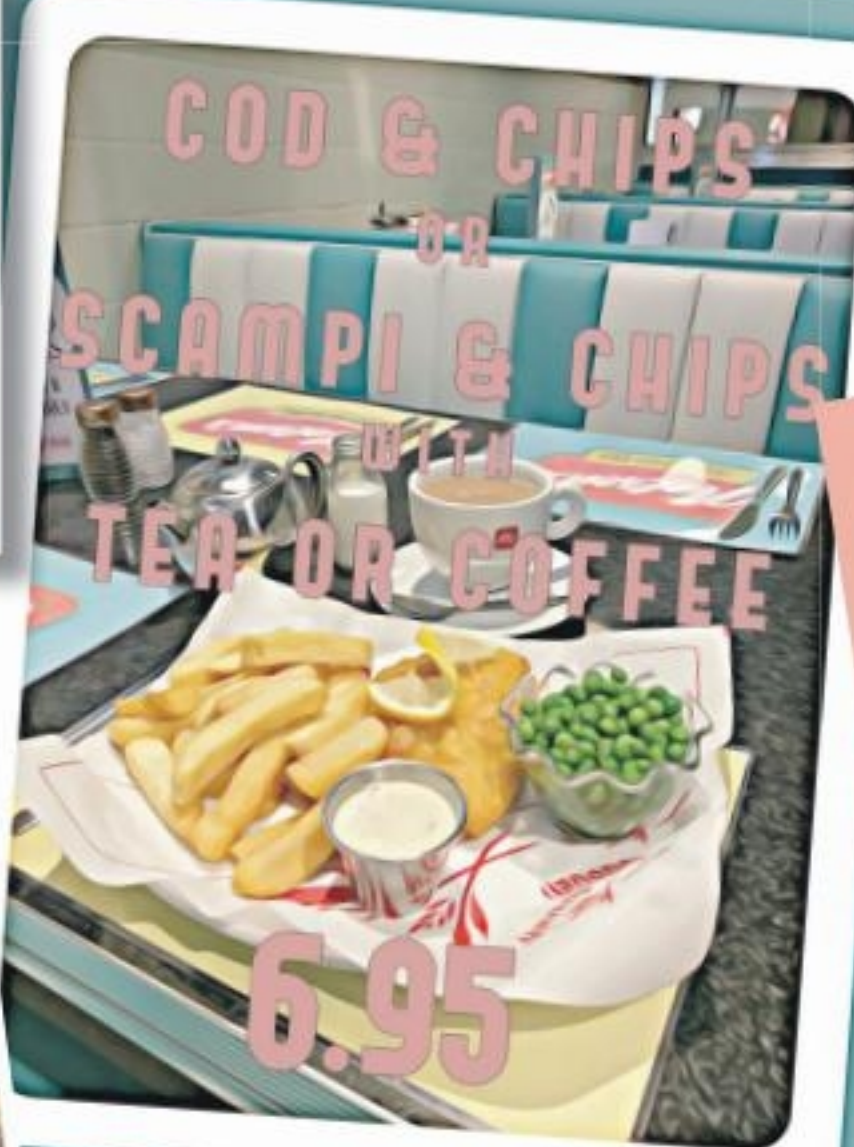
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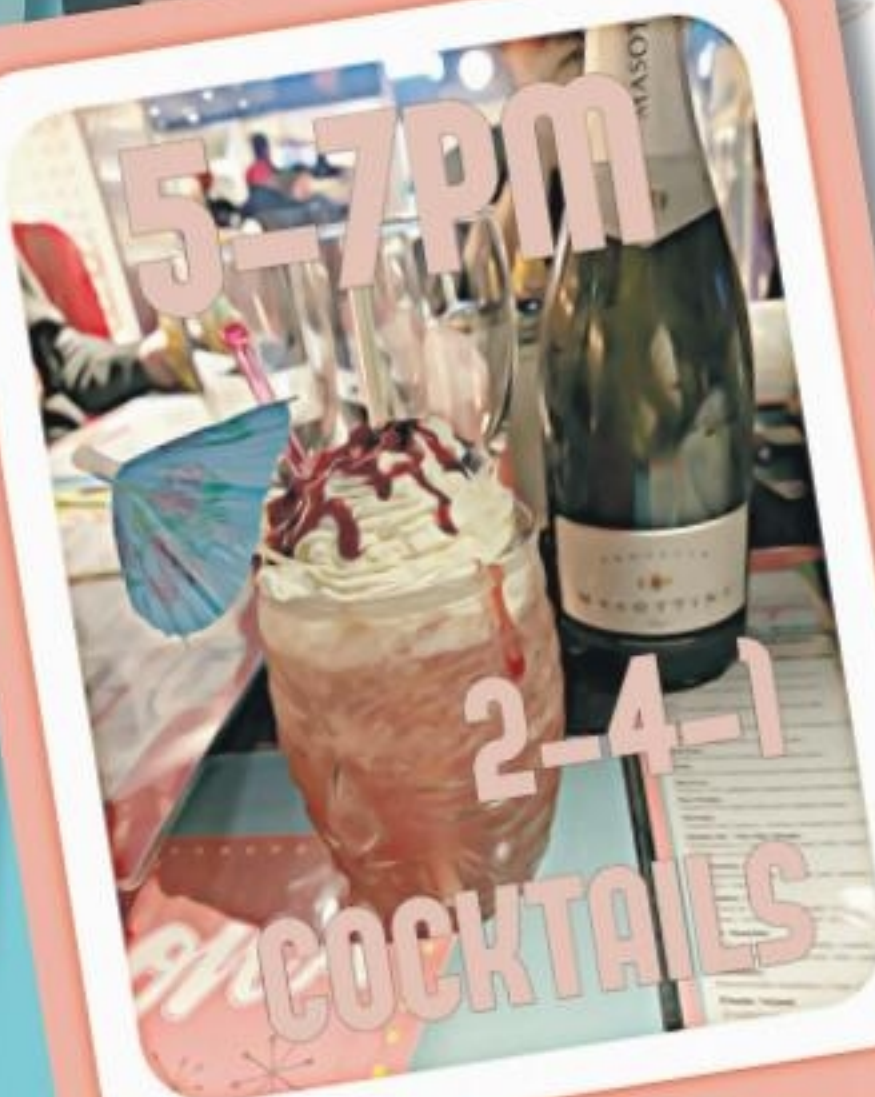
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Fall in police standards is blasted by watchdog

Kate helps people with cancer get mojo back

A WHITCHURCH mum-of-two is using her skills as a stylist to help cancer sufferers and those with low self-esteem get their mojo back.

Kate Jones had her world turned upside down 10 years ago when she was told she had breast cancer, with her confidence suffering after she lost her hair.

But compliments about the way she looked from one of her clients, who did not realise she was going through chemotherapy at the time, left her feeling empowered.

Kate has since made it her mission to allow others at their lowest ebb to experience that feeling themselves by helping to rebuild their self confidence through the way they look.

• See page 3 for full story



• Kate Jones with one of her clients

Inspectors report failings

By Christian Wilson

A GOVERNMENT watchdog has ruled that standards at Hampshire Constabulary have "deteriorated" over the past year.

The latest report on the effectiveness of the county's police force from HM Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) has found that it "requires improvement".

Inspectors were particularly critical of the "unacceptable" way victims of domestic abuse were dealt with, with just 25 arrests made for every 100 offences in Hampshire in the 12 months up to June 30 – the lowest rate in England and Wales.

The report read: "The practice of assessing the risk to some victims of domestic abuse over the phone, which the force has suspended, does not, in HMIC's view, provide a suitable response to victims of domestic abuse."

"In addition, HMIC is concerned about the very low levels of arrests for domestic abuse offences, criminal justice outcomes and the reduction in the use of domestic violence prevention notices. Some victims of domestic abuse may have been failed because police officers did not take action to arrest the perpetrator."

Hampshire was also told to improve how it investigates crime – a subject in which it received a "good" rating last year – with 24.6 per cent of offences recorded having "evidential difficulties", the highest in the country.

HMIC ruled: "Hampshire's performance in some important areas has deteriorated markedly since last year."

"In almost a quarter of all crimes reported to the force, the victim does not subsequently support an investigation by the police."

"While this may be entirely appropriate in certain cases, the numbers of reported crimes dealt with in Hampshire in this way is unacceptable."

The rate of 9.1 per cent of offences resulting in someone being charged was also three per cent below the national average, while 40 per cent of investigations were completed without a suspect being identified.

Inspectors did rate Hampshire Constabulary's effectiveness at preventing crime, tackling anti-social behaviour and keeping people safe as good however, while noting "some elements of its work in this area is outstanding".

And the force was also praised for its ability to tackle serious and organised

• Continues on page 3

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Family tell of 'deep scar' left by death of mum, 31

By Christian Wilson

THE family of a Hook woman killed when the car she was in collided with a tree have spoken of the "deep scar" left in their lives by her death.

Mother-of-three Roxanne Moran was in the passenger seat of a blue Citroen C2 travelling east along the A287 in Odiham on February 25 when the driver lost control.

The vehicle left the carriage-way and crashed into a tree. Ms Moran, of Runnymede Drive, was rushed to Southampton General Hospital after sustaining life-threatening injuries.

But despite the best efforts of doctors, the 31-year-old died from her injuries five days later on Thursday morning.

Her family paid tribute to "a beautiful person inside and out".

A statement read: "She was a wonderful mother who lived for her children and her family. "Nothing was ever too much to ask of Roxanne.

"She was not only a wonderful daughter, sister and mother, she was a true and caring friend who would go out of her way to help anybody."

Two other people were in the car when the collision took place. The other passenger, a



• Roxanne Moran died after the car she was a passenger in hit a tree

28-year-old man, suffered serious injuries that required him to be taken to hospital.

The driver, a 22-year-old man from Camberley, has now been

arrested on suspicion of operating the vehicle while being over the alcohol limit and causing serious injury by dangerous driving.

He has been released on police bail until May 5, although Ms Moran's family insist their only focus now is to help her three sons deal with their mother's death.

They said: "Her death has left a deep scar - one that will not heal soon. But we will stand together as a family and eventually pull through."

"That is what Roxanne would have wanted."

"Our main focus now is taking care of her children and helping them to become fine young men, just as she would have done."

"The world has lost a truly beautiful person but heaven has gained an angel."

Hampshire Constabulary has opened an investigation to establish the cause of the collision, which took place at 12.45am.

Sergeant Jon Bates said: "I am appealing for anyone who witnessed the collision or anyone who saw the vehicle prior to the collision to contact us."

"The vehicle might have been driven from the London Road area, so I would also appeal to anyone who may have seen it in this area."

Call 101 with information, quoting crime reference number 44170072555.

'Suspicion' over attempt to speak to boy

POLICE have released an image of a man who tried to speak to a four-year-old boy during a "suspicious" incident in Basingstoke.

The man approached the youngster, a 10-year-old girl and the 32-year-old woman as they were in Vivian Road, Oakridge, on February 22.

The woman led the children away when the man attempted to speak to the boy.

He is described as white,

aged in his 50s, around 6ft tall, of skinny build, was clean shaven and was wearing a light-coloured flat cap, a black anorak, blue jeans and black shoes.

The encounter took place at around 12.30pm. Police have released the CCTV image in a bid to track down the man to find out what happened.

Detective Constable Matt Deery, from Basingstoke CID, said: "We are trying to establish

exactly what took place during this incident.

"It may well be that there's an entirely innocent explanation for what happened."

"If you recognise the man from this CCTV picture, then please let us know."

"Equally, if you are the man in the picture, please come forward so we can talk to you about what happened."

Call 101 with information.



• Police want to speak to this man

News Bites

Trust in trust

BASINGSTOKE: A staff survey has revealed that the majority of people working for the trust that runs Basingstoke's hospital would recommend it as a place to receive treatment.

Around 78 per cent of staff at Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (HHFT) said they would be happy with the standard of care provided if a friend or relative required treatment.

The trust performed better than average on 41 of the 88 questions asked as part of the National NHS Staff Survey when compared to other trusts.

There were improvements on last year's scores for 23 of the questions.

HHFT interim chief executive, Andrew Bishop, said: "The results of this survey show that trust staff value our hospitals as places to work in."

"What speaks volumes is that they would also recommend them as places for friends and relatives to be treated."

"At a time when staff are under considerable pressure, it is heartening that their dedication and teamwork is paying off and they see Hampshire hospitals as a place where they can make a difference."

Air appeal

HAMPSHIRE: The charity that runs Basingstoke and Deane's air ambulance service is urgently seeking volunteers.

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance (HIOWAA) relies on volunteers to help fulfil a number of roles - from giving talks to local groups to attending fundraising events.

HIOWAA charity manager Sherie Williams Ellen said: "Our volunteers are the backbone of our charity and they provide an essential link to the communities that we serve."

To sign up, ring the HIOWAA office on 02380 333377 or email enquiries@hiowaa.org.

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'I felt powerful. I could beat being ill with colours'

By Christian Wilson

BY her own admission Kate Jones was left filled with "terror and shock" when she was diagnosed with breast cancer nearly 10 years ago.

Aged just 37 at the time and with two young daughters to look after, the Whitchurch stylist had to deal with losing her hair, eyebrows and even her eyelashes.

Kate continued to work as a colour consultant throughout her "endless operations, chemotherapy and radiotherapy".

Then one of her clients complimented her on her hair colour and style.

This happened around half-way through her two-year treatment.

Kate admitted the realisation that people didn't know she was ill left her feeling "like a vixen and not a victim".

She said: "I almost laughed and was about to tell her it was a wig when I realised it was won-

derful because she didn't know I had been ill.

"I felt incredibly powerful and in control for the first time in a long while.

"I could beat the feeling of being ill with my colours and style."

Fast forward to the present day and the 46-year-old's health has improved and her hair has

all grown back, although the way she felt that day has stayed with her.

And she now dedicates much of her time towards helping other people, like fellow Whitchurch cancer sufferer Angela Glenn, 60, reclaim her confidence.

Angela said: "Kate was such an inspiration.

"I felt as if I had known her for years and we really covered so much in the day.

"My confidence has had such a boost and I now approach new situations with a confidence that I have never felt before."

Kate added: "I might not be a lifesaving doctor or pioneering scientist but what I can offer is to help men and women of all ages look and feel their best no matter what their circumstances, especially when maybe they are at a low ebb.

"To hear a client say I have literally changed her life is the best job satisfaction I could ask for."

“

I might not be a lifesaving doctor or pioneering scientist but what I can offer is to help men and women of all ages look and feel their best no matter what their circumstances, especially when maybe they are at a low ebb



• Stylist Kate Jones is delighted to be changing people's lives

News Bites

Poacher sightings

LAVERSTOKE: Two men suspected of poaching were spotted in the area on Sunday.

A man wearing a camouflage jacket was seen in a field between Laverstoke Lane and Micheldever Road with two lurcher style dogs.

It is assumed he was hare coursing, while a second man was spotted apparently waiting for him in a nearby R-plated white Daihatsu Fourtrak.

The vehicle then left the scene before the police could arrive. Anyone with information is asked to call 101, quoting crime reference number 44170083067.

Spirited away

BASINGSTOKE: Cigarettes and spirits were stolen from the Fastfare store in Abbey Road last Thursday.

A large quantity of different brands of cigarettes and bottles ranging from 10cl to one litre were taken, along with cash and phone cards.

Entry was gained to the store by forcing a skylight.

The burglary is believed to have taken place between 2.30am and 2.50am.

Anyone who saw anything or has been offered cigarettes and bottles for sale in the area should contact 101, quoting crime reference number 44170078689.

'Report is unfair and unjust'

• From front page

crime, with the role of neighbourhood officers being noted to be "particularly good".

HMIC's Zoë Billingham, who led the inspection, warned that the police force was "not as well equipped as it has been in the past", with increasing strains on officers resulting in "some basic things not being done".

Hampshire Constabulary, one of 13 forces nationwide told to improve,

has been among those that have "struggled to cope", with the number of officers dropping by almost 1,000 since 2010 amid £85million of cuts to its budget.

And with this reduction in numbers coinciding with an increasing demand on officers from the public, the chairman of Hampshire Police Federation has blasted Ms Billingham's ruling as "unfair and unjust".

"For some time we have been warning that cuts to policing have

consequences," said John Apter. "Some labelled these warnings as scaremongering - many were dismissive and had their heads firmly stuck in the sand as to the reality of the impact of cuts to policing.

"The tone of the report puts the blame of a poorer service with the police. This is unfair and unjust. The public and those working within policing deserve more. They are being failed by a Government who treat policing with contempt."

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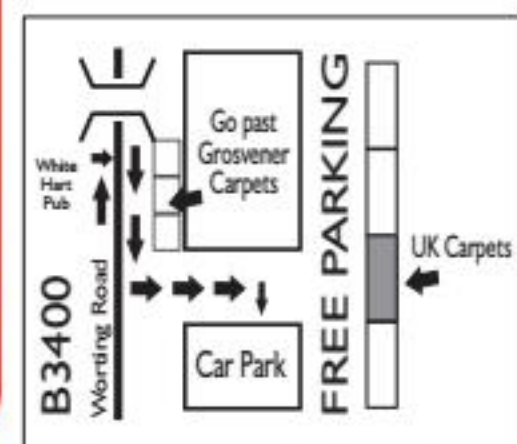


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Course for anti-social teenagers

TEENAGERS from North Hampshire involved in anti-social behaviour are set to learn about the consequences of their actions.

Up to eight youngsters from Basingstoke and Deane, Hart and Rushmoor will be put on a Challenge and Change course in May.

The two-day event will be run by the Safer North Hampshire Partnership (SNHP).

Youngsters will be referred through the courts and by police to help them see the effect their actions have on the community.

Referrals will spend time with the police as part of the programme, while also visiting a magistrates' court and talking to current prisoners at HMP Coldingley in Woking.

SNHP chairman Cllr John Kennett said: "This innovative programme will provide young people who have been taking part in either anti-social behaviour or crime with a valuable insight into what will happen if they continue."

"It also shows how it can affect perpetrators from arrest to custody, the journey through the court system and life as a prisoner at HMP Coldingley."

"The course concludes with the positive changes the young people can make."

Time team is digging in to uncover forest's past

By Christian Wilson

ANCIENT woodland to the east of Tadley is being excavated by the area's very own 'time team' in order to reveal its prehistoric past.

A series of six or more previously unknown monuments have been discovered in part of Pamber Forest using aerial survey techniques.

These pictures showed outlines of the monuments, although the find was thanks to the Silchester project team from the University of Reading rather than Tony Robinson and co.

The discovery has now prompted Dr Catherine Barnett and Professor Michael Fulford from the university to approach the Englefield Estate - which the forest is part of - to request permission to start an archaeological investigation.

The work is part of the university's Silchester Environs project, which is looking to examine the landscape around the Late Iron Age and Roman town of Calleva Atrebatum in Silchester.

Research manager Dr Barnett said: "Excavation and analysis of the sites in Pamber



• Archaeologists at work in Pamber Forest

Forest will be key to examining human-environment relationships and agricultural developments by the local population over this time.

"A tremendous amount of information has already been

phase of research will provide insights into what life and landscape was like beyond the city walls and how that enabled the establishment of this important urban centre."

The field team, headed up by Nick Pankhurst and Dan Wheeler, will be digging sections through the Pamber Forest enclosures and taking samples for more detailed laboratory analysis.

Radiocarbon dating and analysis of organic remains excavated in the project will also provide detailed data on the timing of events as people changed the ancient ecosystem.

Pamber Forest covers 480 acres of land between Basingstoke and Deane, Newbury and Reading, and is owned by the Englefield Estate.

Head of forestry at the estate, Richard Edwards, said: "Our involvement, as stewards of the woodland with the wildlife trust, is to ensure that any research work is carried out sensitively."

"Our hope is that the ongoing studies by the team at Reading University's archaeology department will enhance our understanding of this ancient woodland."

News Bites

Hospital on TV

BASINGSTOKE: The emergency department at Basingstoke hospital will feature on TV in the coming weeks.

It has opened its doors to E4 show *Bizarre ER*, which focuses on some of the most unusual casualties arriving.

Only three other hospitals from the UK will be in the 10-part series when it begins next Tuesday night.

Clinical matron Clare Knock said: "We enjoyed the chance to showcase our skills."

Hackwood race

WINSLADE: Hackwood Park will host a series of horse races as part of the NFU Mutual Basingstoke and Hampshire Hunt Point to Point on Sunday.

A total of 83 entries have been registered for the six scheduled races, with the day due to begin with pony racing at 11.30am and the main races starting at 1pm.

Jeweller sparkles

BASINGSTOKE: Residents have voted Petra Jewellery the best business in Basingstoke.

The jewellers, in Harrow Way, received 308 reviews during 'thebestof Basingstoke's' Business of the Year Awards.

Shop owner Mitch Lloyd said: "It is an honour to be recognised for the job that we do."

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Road users told 'watch each other'

HAMPSHIRE County Council has launched a campaign encouraging cyclists and drivers to keep an eye out for one another on the roads.

Around 39 per cent of accidents involving cyclists in Hampshire take place during rush hour, while most incidents happen on weekdays.

To remind people behind the wheel and on their bike to be alert to one another at all times, the county council will run adverts on buses and on social media throughout March.

Executive member for transport, Rob Humby, said: "We can all do our bit to make the roads as safe as possible for everyone who uses them."

"Whether you're driving or cycling, being aware of what's going on around you can make all the difference."

"I'd ask both cyclists and drivers to make sure they can be seen, that they signal intended manoeuvres and avoid any unexpected actions."

Residents have also been reminded to be aware at junctions - 70 per cent of cyclist casualties occur at crossroads, roundabouts and driveways.

Cllr Humby added: "Remember to ride a door's width from parked cars, and signal to show drivers what you plan to do."

Caring Elaine helps rare cancer patients face 'op'



• Elaine Cooney helps patients prepare for major surgery

By Christian Wilson

GETTING ready to go into surgery can be one of the most daunting prospects for anyone - be it their first time or their tenth.

But dedicated healthcare assistant Elaine Cooney has made it her mission to ensure that no patient at Basingstoke hospital who comes across her path has to face it alone.

Elaine regularly gives up her own time to introduce patients to the intensive care unit before their operation takes place.

And she even helped to redecorate the relatives' room in the unit.

But with Basingstoke hospital one of just two centres in the country to carry out surgery on a rare form of cancer known as pseudomyxoma peritonei, Elaine feels it's her duty to do all she can to ensure patients know what to expect.

She said: "Helping to prepare pseudomyxoma patients for their time on the intensive care unit ahead of their operations is something that is really important to me."

"It's a big, long operation and the thought of going into inten-

sive care can be frightening. By showing them around, hopefully I can take that daunting element away, which maybe even helps to avoid things like delirium."

Elaine has also carried out an audit on the positive effect that the visits have on patients and relatives.

She was invited to showcase her findings at the International Congress on Peritoneal Surface Malignancies in Washington DC.

And the 56-year-old's willingness to go the extra mile has not gone unnoticed by those around her, with the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) shortlisting her for a national award.

Elaine is one of just five people from across the country to be named as a finalist for the Healthcare Assistant Award at the RCN 2017 Nurse Awards.

Ahead of the prestigious ceremony at the Westminster Park Plaza, in London, on May 5, she expressed her surprise at being selected.

She said: "I can't really believe it and I'm looking forward to the ceremony so much."

"If I was to win, it would be brilliant, both for me personally and for the trust."

News Bites

Water works

HOOK: Temporary traffic lights will keep the public safe and traffic moving while South East Water continues work along Reading Road.

The company is currently laying a 3.3km pipeline, costing £620,000 between Hook and Mattingley to secure the area's water supply for the future.

In order to connect the new section of pipe that has been laid between the junctions of Hook Road and Cowfold Lane to the existing network, road closures have been lifted and temporary traffic lights have been put in place until next week.

Trade views

HAMPSHIRE: The priorities of 192 residents in North East Hampshire on a future US-UK trade deal were aired at a parliamentary event last Wednesday.

Campaign organisation 38 Degrees hosted the event, with local residents insisting the biggest issues for them were ring-fencing funding for the NHS from trade deals and maintaining safety standards.

Campaign manager Lorna Greenwood said: "It's incredible to see so many people taking the time to share their ideas for how a new trade deal with America could benefit North East Hampshire."



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Children get school of choice

NEARLY all of Hampshire parents have secured a place for their children at one of their preferred county council-run secondary schools.

More than 98 per cent of those moving up from primary school have been handed a Year 7 spot at a school of their choice from September.

Hampshire County Council received 13,521 on-time applications from parents this year – an increase of 60.

Executive member for education, Peter Edgar, said: "We have again been able to offer a very high number of pupils a place at their preferred secondary. That's a significant achievement considering the size of the county and increasing demand for school places."

"Pupil numbers continue to rise and I am pleased to say our investment in schools to provide the additional places is keeping pace, thanks to our strong track record in planning for the future."

He added: "Every child whose parents applied for a place at a Hampshire secondary school, has been offered one. There are always schools with exceptionally high demand, which is a credit to the high standard."

Triangle land sale paves the way for another 90 homes

By Christian Wilson

THE final hurdle has been overcome to allow 90 new homes to be built on land close to Basingstoke's hospital.

Discussions have rumbled on between the borough council and Bovis Homes for the last couple of years to sell council-owned land at the Aldermaston Road Triangle just off the A340.

Plans to build 300 flats on the land were first raised around eight years ago, although after reducing this number to 90, out-

line planning permission was finally granted last July.

The land has now successfully been sold off to developers Bovis Homes – paving the way for construction on the site.

A small piece of land from the five-acre site has also been transferred to the county council to facilitate £4million of highway improvements on the A340.

The borough's cabinet member for property and development, Cllr John Izett, said: "This is a good example of the borough council using surplus

land to enable the building of the new homes needed by local people.

"By dedicating a small section of the Triangle site to Hampshire County Council, we have also been able to help secure an important highway scheme to improve traffic flow and safety.

"The sale proceeds have contributed significantly to the council's budget, so we can continue investing in projects to benefit our residents.

"In addition, the sale has secured section 106 money, which will be spent on education improvements, community facilities and open space and playing field facilities which will make a real difference."

A total of 40 per cent of the new homes will be categorised as affordable as part of the £8.7m development, while 62 of the 90 will be houses and 28 will be flats.

Bovis Homes land director, Jon Wheeler, said: "We are delighted to complete the purchase. Work will begin shortly."



• The Aldermaston Road Triangle site has now been sold



• Mit Dattani (left) with surgeon Brendan Moran

Charity study brings hope for bowel cancer patients

BOWEL cancer patients all across Britain are set to benefit from improved treatment thanks to findings by colorectal specialists at a Basingstoke charity.

A two year study by Mit Dattani, a research fellow at The Pelican Cancer Foundation, has led to increased awareness of best medical practice for treating cancer patients.

The charity, which is based at The Ark, has developed and funded a bowel cancer screening programme that has helped increase the detection of significant polyps and early colorectal cancer.

Mr Dattani's study across nine hospitals in England demonstrates variations in treatment and outcomes.

SPECC aims to increase

awareness of the particular problems posed by removing pre-cancerous growths and earlier stage bowel cancers, with Pelican currently running a national SPECC training programme.

Nearly 600 clinicians from 99 NHS trusts have taken part so far, and 61 per cent of participants say they will initiate a change in practice as a result of the findings.

Mr Dattani said: "I am delighted to see the ongoing results of my research into SPECC being taken forward on to this national training programme."

"My hope is that this work will ensure patients receive the appropriate treatment for their condition within the context of a multi-disciplinary setting."

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After her 5 stone loss mum wants to share her slimming secrets

Nikki said it hit her one day, she saw a woman playing football in her local park with her child and it was then she realised she would never be able to do the same with her son at the weight was. For years Nikki had dreamed about being the best mum that she could be, a mum that was full of fun and would play games with her children but this would never be the case at her current weight so she knew she had to make a change.

After living on processed foods and takeaways for years her weight had ballooned up to 17st 5lbs and she had decided that enough was enough. After a couple of weeks building up the courage Nikki finally took the step and walked into her local Slimming World group. Shaking with nerves she walked in to be welcomed with the warm, friendly smile of the consultant who reassured her it was all going to be ok.

She says "I was introduced to the Slimming World food optimising plan which allows you to eat as much free food as you want, this included rice and pasta. I couldn't believe it after all these years trying to cut out rice and pasta here was a plan allowing me to eat unlimited amounts. I felt a bit sceptical the first week as all I seemed to do was eat but when I went to my first weigh in I discovered I had lost 6lbs and as I continued to follow the plan the weight just seemed to fall off. I found with food optimising I never had to go hungry and didn't have to cut out any of my favourite foods, I could even have a takeaway, this is why it worked for me as I never felt I was on a diet."

"Another difference I found with Slimming World that I had never experienced before was the support. I would never have lost anywhere near as much as I have if it hadn't been for the support of my consultant and the rest of the group. Losing weight isn't easy and you will

hit challenges everyday but I want to be there along with the rest of the group to support anyone who wants to reach their target weight. We will be sharing recipes, help each other to stay motivated, overcome any challenges and celebrate everyone's success."

Since joining Slimming World in May 2016 Nikki has lost 5 ½ stone and now weighs 11st 12lbs. "It has changed my life. I no longer break down in tears before social events as I have nothing to wear or that fits. Most of all though I have so much more energy so I can be that fun mum that I always dreamed of being. I think I could even give the woman in the park a run for her money."

Nikki has decided that now she wants to give back and to help people that are in the same position she was in by becoming a Slimming World consultant. She has now completed her training and her members are getting ready to welcome her as their new consultant on the 14th March. "A year ago I would never have believed I would be helping other people to lose weight but now I cannot wait to get started and be that friendly face people will see as they walk through the door. After losing 5 ½ st and completing my training, it's a privilege for me to be able to pass on the experience, insight and understanding that helped me, so that I can give my members the support they need to get to target."

Nikki's Slimming World group will be held at Carnival Hall every Tuesday at 17.30 and 19.30 from 14th March. For more information or to join Nikki's group either pop along on 14th March or call her on 07795 515235.

For more information visit
www.slimmingworld.co.uk
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Oakridge Village

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Tel: Lynn 07391 138672

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Kenilworth Road
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Tel: Tina 07810 147400

South Ham

Westside Community Centre
Paddock Road
5.30 & 7.30pm
Tel: Kirsty 07843 276953

Overton

St Lukes Hall, Winchester Street
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Tel: Lynn 07391 138672

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Lauren
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News Bites

Top apprentices

ALDERMASTON: The Atomic Weapons Establishment has celebrated the achievements of apprentices from its class of 2017.

The nuclear deterrent manufacturer graduated 34 young people from its three-year skills academy.

Spokesman Marcus Hutchings said: "I'm proud to say we have been named the south east region large employer of the year for apprenticeships."

"We have advanced our technology programme, including the issue of laptops to all first year apprentices."

"This supports a more flexible and dynamic working environment, gaining full benefit from apps and digital media."

Lottery results

BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE: St Michael's Hospice has announced the winners of its draw on Friday, March 3.

First prize of £1,000 goes to ticket 28096 of Hook, while ticket 86844 of Alton claims second prize of £100.

Third prize of £50 goes to Basingstoke ticket 69234, and Basingstoke ticket 79951 gets fourth prize of £20.

Prizes of £5 go to 44064, 47856, 68966, 63832, 39321, 52676, 65160, 89717, 53906, 80089, 16389, 95324, 24907, 03560, 52675 and 39304.

'Earn and learn' a great alternative to university debt

By Christian Wilson

A FORMER Basingstoke apprentice has urged young people to "earn while they learn" a new trade.

Liam Church was unsure what he wanted to do after school and was looking for a way to start work while still keeping his options open.

He applied for an apprenticeship at Hampshire County Council and the 21-year-old now works as a senior administration assistant at the authority.

To mark National Apprenticeship Week, Liam said he believes public perception of trainees has completely changed from before.

He said: "Years ago, university was more actively promoted and an apprenticeship was seen as something for those who might not have been as academically capable."

"In recent years though I'd say that general opinion, including mine, has changed in a positive way."

"It is now a perfectly legiti-



• Confident: Liam Church

mate and successful way to get a job and gain real hands-on experience while also studying towards a qualification – the best of both worlds."

Liam believes an increase in the number of people applying for apprenticeships is partly down to a lot of university grad-

uates struggling to find a job.

The council's executive member for education, Cllr Peter Edgar, agrees and has called on other youngsters to follow Liam's example.

He said: "When I talk to apprentices, it's obvious how much confidence and enjoyment they are experiencing during their training, not to mention the skills they are learning and the contribution they are making to the authority."

"I look forward to welcoming more new apprentices to the county council. I'm glad to see that so many go on to take up permanent roles in the organisation."

Liam added: "I didn't have a set idea of what I wanted to do as a career, so I wanted an entry-level job where I could learn and develop a wide variety of skills."

"I found that in this role. It was one of the best decisions I've made."

Find out more about apprenticeships at: tinyurl.com/gu5qevt.

No pressure! Nurse takes double award

A TOP nurse at the trust that runs Basingstoke's hospital has won both a national award and an exclusive scholarship.

Arlene Wellman is one of just 11 senior nurses from across the whole country to win a Florence Nightingale Foundation Aspiring Nurse Directors Leadership Scholarship.

The 14-month programme is for nurses and midwives that have the potential to secure a board position in the future.

The associate director of nursing at Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (HHFT) has also been named the winner of the Florence Nightingale Foundation Edna Marion Poster Competition for Care Improvement.

Arlene claimed the double prize for her entry detailing HHFT's drive to eliminate hospital-acquired pressure ulcers, which saw measures result in a 70 per cent reduction in problems experienced by patients.

She said: "I was shocked but really pleased when they announced I had won."

"The drive to reduce pressure ulcers in our trust is something I am really proud to have led."



• Nurse Arlene Wellman is celebrating after winning a national award and an exclusive scholarship

"Things are certainly going in the right direction but there is still work going on to standardise things."

"It's an amazing opportunity and I am really looking forward to getting my teeth into the project I will embark on as a part of it."

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Kids design benches for Jane Austen

SCHOOL kids from eight Basingstoke and Deane schools are preparing their own special tribute to the borough's most famous daughter.

A number of artists are currently designing 25 different 'BookBenches' to commemorate the work of Steventon-born novelist Jane Austen.

Each of the benches, which will be shaped like an open book, will be unveiled across Basingstoke this summer as part of a celebration to mark 200 years since Austen's death.

And youngsters from eight primary schools from across the borough are now set to get involved with Destination Basingstoke's 'Sitting With Jane' project by designing and painting their own smaller BookBenches.

Pupils from Marnel Junior School, Rucstall Primary School, Cliddesden Primary School, The Priory School, North Waltham Primary School, Overton C of E Primary School, Brighton Hill Community School and The Costello School will all be involved.

Head of operations at the National Literacy Trust, Rosemary Thomas, said: "This is a fantastic project for schools in Basingstoke that will help to inspire pupils."

MP's joy as sex education compulsory in all schools

By Christian Wilson

BASINGSTOKE MP Maria Miller has expressed her delight after her campaign resulted in sex education classes being made compulsory at every school in the country.

Education Secretary Justine Greening confirmed last week that a change would be introduced to ensure all children aged four and above are taught about safe and healthy relationships.

Sex education is currently only mandatory at schools run by local authorities, with the law enabling academies and independent schools to choose.

But Mrs Miller has spent the last year campaigning to change the law after an inquiry by the women and equalities committee, which she chairs, made some alarming discoveries about sexual violence and harassment in schools.

Almost a third of 16 to 18-year-old girls claimed to have been groped, while 59 per cent aged 13-21 had faced some form of sexual harassment.

But after seeing her amendment to the "outdated" Children and Social Work Bill to provide "age appropriate" sex-ed les-



• Sex and relationships classes are to be made mandatory at all schools. Inset: Maria Miller

sons to youngsters accepted, Mrs Miller insisted the move would provide "real change".

She said: "The Government has listened to the overwhelming majority of parents and children who are clear they want relationship and sex education to be compulsory.

"This means real change for children who face the challenge of dealing with a highly sexualised online world.

"The Government has been able to act because of the overwhelming evidence and the specific challenges faced by children in this internet and digital age."

Figures also showed most children have seen pornography online by the time they leave primary school, while two thirds are asked for a sexual picture of themselves before they finish secondary school.

All of the classes will be monitored directly by education regulator Ofsted, with primary school pupils set to be taught "not to cuddle strangers" and older pupils informed how to protect themselves against 'sexting', grooming and online porn.

Parents will continue to have the right to withdraw their child from the classes, while safeguards will be put in place in line with religious teaching.

News Bites

'Grand' fete

BRAMLEY: A St George's Day celebration is set to be bigger and better than ever after a housebuilder backed the event.

The fete has received £1,000 from property developer Charles Church.

Residents will be out in force to enjoy the fun on April 29.

The event is arranged by the Clift Meadow Trust and St James Church, and is seen as the ideal opportunity for residents to get together.

Sarah Stubbs, of the Clift Meadow Park Trust, said: "We are thrilled with the donation from Charles Church, which will go towards supporting local groups running stalls and providing attractions and entertainment at the event."

Highways deal

HAMPSHIRE: The county council has chosen Skanska to deliver highways maintenance services for the next seven years.

The deal will take effect from August 1 and has an option to extend for a further five years past 2024 based on successful performance.

Executive member for transport, Rob Humby, said: "I'm confident that our new contract is competitive and offers good value for money for council tax payers."

Worting House welcomes guests to their new Drop-In Zone

As part of our commitment to delivering a fantastic service to both clients and visitors, Worting House is delighted to announce our new and fully refurbished Drop-In Zone. Providing additional free 'top-up' desk space for clients just when needed, including a dedicated quiet 'no phones' zone for times when complete concentration is required. It's extra space at no cost, providing flexibility when the office is noisy, or everyone is in, or when a business simply needs an extra desk.

The Drop-In Zone provides workstations with telephones and Wi-Fi, all ready for immediate use. Guests can also make use of the comfy armchair seating and a meeting room table and chairs, together with a printer and free coffee station.

The Quiet Zone next door again has great desks and comfy seating, where people can escape from the hustle and bustle, and concentrate quietly without any disruptions.

Both rooms are available 24 hours a day; free for everyone who has an office here at Worting House. It's a great facility when extra staff or consultants are in the office, for customers or suppliers visiting, or when you just need more space.

We also welcome temporary and non-resident clients who can use these rooms, the telephone reception and mail handling, and our meeting rooms, all for a modest fee. With packages to suit most budgets, we can tailor the services to what people need and intend to use – it's very flexible, with safe and fast internet access included.

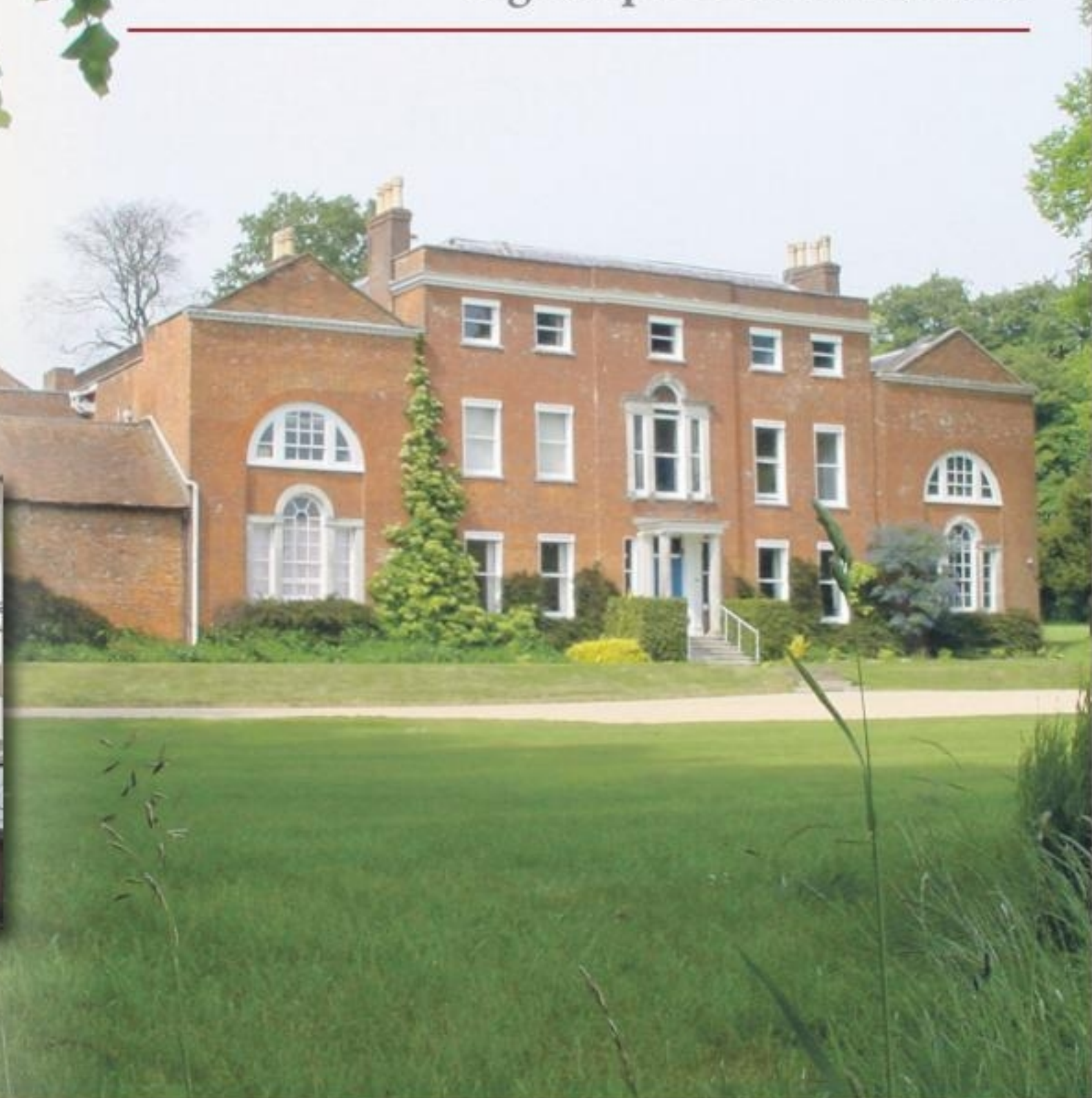
Damien Koziel, Director of The Alternative Board (Basingstoke & North Downs), comments, "Worting House is by far the best meeting location that I use. The staff make all the difference; they are always helpful and make sure all the arrangements are exactly what I asked for. They are both efficient and friendly; making me feel welcome and helping me to ensure my meetings are effective."

For more information about Worting House contact Julie or Helen on 01256 817640, email: juliekehoe@wortinghouse.co.uk or visit our website www.wortinghouse.co.uk



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WIN a £125 gift card with The Entertainer

TO celebrate The Entertainer's re-opening of refurbished Basingstoke store located in Festival Place on Potters Walk, we are giving away two £125 gift cards to spend in store from the UK's favourite toy retailer!

The Entertainer is opening its doors on Saturday 18th March, which will make this the 7th The Entertainer toy shop to be re-opened in the UK. To celebrate the opening, The Entertainer will have a host of exciting activities taking place for you to get involved in. Starting with special appearances from LEGO Ninjago's Kai and Lloyd (along with The Entertainer's mascot - Jack, plenty of fun in-store demos and FREE gifts with selected purchases! In addition the first 20 families to visit the store will receive a FREE gift card!

This will all be taking place on the morning of the re-opening continuing throughout the day with more opportunities to WIN! With The Entertainer To find out more about The Enter-

Closing date: Friday, March 17

tainer and its stores please visit www.TheToyShop.com

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To be in with a chance of winning one of the two gift cards we have on offer just answer the following simple question:

Q: Which popular brand of plastic brick recently released their own movie version of Batman?



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	BBC1	BBC2	ITV	Channel 4	Channel 5
	Casualty, 8.40pm	Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands, 8pm	Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway, 7pm	Crufts 2017, 7pm	Live Boxing on 5, 10.20pm
DAYTIME	11.30 Mary Berry Everyday (S)(R) 12.00 Football Focus - FA Cup on the Road (S) 1.00 BBC News (S) 1.15 Bargain Hunt (S) 2.15 Escape to the Country (S) 2.45 FILM Kung Fu Panda (2008) (PG) (S) 4.10 Final Score (S) 5.10 Celebrity Mastermind (S)(R) 5.40 BBC News (S) 5.50 BBC Regional News; Weather (S) 6.00 Pointless Celebrities (S)(R) 6.45 Let's Sing and Dance for Comic Relief (S)	9.30 Coast (S) 10.00 Natural World (S)(R) 11.00 Homes Under the Hammer (S)(R) 12.00 Two Greedy Italians: Still Hungry (S)(R) 1.00 The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo (S)(R) 1.30 FILM The Red Shoes (1948) (U) (S) 3.40 Gardeners' World (S)(R) 4.10 University Challenge (S)(R) 4.40 Only Connect (S)(R) 5.10 Flog It! (S)(R) 6.00 Natural World (S)(R)	8.30 Scrambled!: Bear Grylls Survival School (S) 9.05 Scrambled!: Adventure Time (S)(R) 9.25 Alphabetical (S)(R) 10.20 All Star Family Fortunes (S)(R) 11.05 The Voice UK (S)(R) 12.25 ITV News; Weather (S) 12.30 Live Six Nations Rugby Union (S) 3.30 Live Six Nations Rugby Union (S) 6.30 ITV Regional News; Weather (S) 6.45 ITV News (S)	6.15 Mobil 1 The Grid (S) 6.45 The King of Queens (S)(R) 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond (S)(R) 8.30 Frasier (S)(R) 9.30 The Big Bang Theory (S)(R) 10.55 The Simpsons (S)(R) 12.00 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast (S)(R) 1.00 Come Dine with Me (S)(R) 3.35 A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun (S)(R) 4.35 Location, Location, Location (S)(R) 5.35 Channel 4 News (S) 6.05 Dogs Behaving Badly (S)	6.00 Milkshake! 9.55 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (S) 10.30 Access 10.35 Benefits Britain: Me & My 14 Kids (S)(R) 11.30 Benefits: On the Yorkshire Dole (S)(R) 12.25 Benefit Beauty Queens (S)(R) 1.25 Dance Moms (S) 4.10 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door Two neighbour in Snowdonia National Park who end up at loggerheads. (S)(R) 5.05 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away (S)(R)
7		7.00 Natural World Part two of two. The new animals are proving quite a handful. (S)(R)	7.00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway The evening variety show continues. (S)	7.00 Crufts 2017 Clare Balding presents live coverage from the NEC in Birmingham. (S)	7.05 NCIS: Los Angeles A vehicle transporting Jada Khaled is ambushed. (S)
8	8.00 Who Dares Wins (S) 8.40 Casualty Robyn takes matters into her own hands as David's behaviour becomes increasingly manic. (S)	8.00 Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands Paul Murton heads to the northernmost spur of Skye. (S) 8.30 Dad's Army (S)(R)	8.30 The Voice UK The remaining contestants face the third of four live knock-out rounds. Presented by Emma Willis. (S)		8.00 NCIS The secretary of the US Navy seeks to save the life of a sailor with leukaemia. (S) 8.55 5 News Weekend (S)
9	9.30 Mrs Brown's Boys Agnes is excited about Rory's big day - until she meets the wedding planner. (S)(R)	9.00 Geri's 1990s: My Drive to Freedom Geri Horner shares her memories of the 1990s. (S)	9.45 ITV News; Weather (S)	9.00 FILM Room (2015) (15) Premiere. Drama, starring Brie Larson and Jacob Tremblay. (S)	9.00 Football on 5: The Championship Highlights from the weekend's games in the Championship. (S) 9.50 Football on 5: Goal Rush (S)
10	10.00 BBC News; Weather; (S) National Lottery Update (S) 10.20 Match of the Day Highlights of Bournemouth v West Ham United. (S)	10.00 Live at the Apollo With Frankie Boyle, Jack Carroll and Holly Walsh. (S)(R) 10.45 FILM LA Confidential (1997) (18) (S)	10.05 Lethal Weapon A case involving gun-runners and military technology involves Riggs personally. (S)(R)		10.20 Live Boxing on 5 Craig Kenned v Stephen Simmons. Coverage of the bout for the vacant British Cruiserweight title, which takes place at Motorpoint Arena in Cardiff, Wales. (S)
11	11.05 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights Action from the sixth round. (S) 11.35 This Country (S)		11.00 FILM Rambo: First Blood Part II (1985) (15) Action adventure sequel, with Sylvester Stallone and Richard Crenna. (S)	11.20 FILM The Adjustment Bureau (2011) (12) Sci-fi thriller, starring Matt Damon and Emily Blunt. (S)	
AFTER 12	12.00 Line of Duty (S)(R) 1.00 Line of Duty (S)(R) 2.00 Weather for the Week Ahead (S) 2.05 BBC News (S)	12.55 Taboo (S)(R) 1.55 Taboo (S)(R) 2.55 FILM Rabbit Hole (2010) (12) Drama, with Nicole Kidman and Aaron Eckhart. (S) 4.20 This Is BBC Two (S)	12.50 Schofield's South African Adventure (S)(R) 1.25 Jackpot247 3.00 Who's Doing the Dishes? (S)(R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen	1.15 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (S)(R) 2.05 Hollyoaks (S) 4.10 Shipping Wars UK (S)(R) 4.55 Four in a Bed (S)(R) 5.20 Building the Dream (S)	12.10 SuperCasino 3.10 FILM London Boulevard (2010) (18) Crime drama, with Colin Farrell and Keira Knightley. (S) 4.50 House Doctor (S)(R) 5.15 Wildlife SOS (S)(R) 5.40 Angels o Jarm (S)(R) 5.50 Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 6.10 Emmerdale 8.40 Coronation Street 11.10 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway 12.40 The Voice UK 2.00 You've Been Framed! Gold 2.30 **FILM**: Paul Blart: Mall Cop (2009) (PG) Comedy, starring Kevin James. 3.30 FYI Daily 3.35 **FILM**: Paul Blart: Mall Cop (2009) (PG) Concluded. 4.25 **FILM**: King Kong (2005) (12) Fantasy adventure remake, starring Naomi Watts. 5.25 FYI Daily 5.30 **FILM**: King Kong (2005) (12) Concluded. 8.00 Scorpion 9.00 **FILM**: American Pie: The Wedding (2003) (15) Comedy sequel, starring Jason Biggs. 10.00 FYI Daily 10.05 **FILM**: American Pie: The Wedding (2003) (15) Concluded. 10.55 Family Guy 12.25 American Dad! 1.20 Release the Hounds: Famous & Freaked 2.20 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 2.45 Teleshopping 5.45 ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 On the Buses 6.55 Murder, She Wrote 7.55 **FILM**: The Belles of St Trinian's (1954) (U) 8.55 FYI Daily 9.00 **FILM**: The Belles of St Trinian's (1954) (U) 9.45 **FILM**: Carry On Camping (1969) (PG) 10.45 FYI Daily 10.50 **FILM**: Carry On Camping (1969) (PG) 11.35 Inspector Morse 1.50 Rosemary & Thyme 2.55 Agatha Christie's Marple 5.00 Lewis 7.00 Midsomer Murders 11.00 Carry On Forever 12.00 Wycliffe 1.05 Marchlands 2.00 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Britain's Outlaws: Highwaymen, Pirates and Rogues 8.00 She-Wolves: England's Early Queens 9.00 Follow the Money 11.00 Top of the Pops: 1983 12.15 People's History of Pop 1.15 Blues America 3.15 Sounds of the Eighties 3.45 Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Made in Chelsea 6.45 Melissa & Joey 7.40 Young & Hungry 8.35 Baby Daddy 9.35 How I Met Your Mother 10.30 Young & Hungry 11.30 **FILM**: Step Up (2006) (PG) Romantic dance drama, with Channing Tatum and Jenna Dewan. 1.35 The Goldbergs 3.00 Black-ish 3.30 The Big Bang Theory 4.00 **FILM**: Mirror Mirror (2012) (PG) Fantasy, starring Julia Roberts. 6.05 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 **FILM**: Red 2 (2013) (12) Action thriller sequel, starring Bruce Willis. 11.15 Gogglebox 12.20 Celebs Go Dating 3.20 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 4.00 Rude(ish) Tube 4.45 Revenge

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Come Dine with Me 11.35 Location, Location, Location 12.35 Coast vs Country 1.40 Rivers with Jeremy Paxman 2.45 Four in a Bed 5.25 Come Dine with Me 8.00 Jutland: WWI's Greatest Sea Battle 9.00 Japan's Tsunami: Caught on Camera 10.25 Japan's Tsunami: How It Happened 11.30 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown 1.35 Father Ted 2.40 Japan's Tsunami: How It Happened 3.35 Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Casper (1995) (PG) Supernatural family comedy, starring Christina Ricci. 1.00 Win Win (2011) (15) Comedy drama, starring Paul Giamatti. 3.10 Ice Age: Continental Drift (2012) (U) Animated comedy sequel, with the voice of Ray Romano. 4.55 Johnny English (2003) (PG) Spy comedy, starring Rowan Atkinson. 6.40 Morning Glory (2010) (12) Comedy, starring Rachel McAdams. 9.00 AVP: Alien vs Predator (2004) (15) Sci-fi thriller, starring Sanaa Lathan. 10.45 Hush (2008) (15) British road thriller, starring William Ash. 12.30 The Crazies (2010) (15) 2.30 Rec 3: Genesis (2012) (18) 4.00 Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.10 Deadly 60 10.00 Top Gear 1.30 Motorway Cops 2.30 Storage Hunters UK 3.30 **FILM**: Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves (1991) (PG) Action adventure, starring Kevin Costner. 6.20 Gavin & Stacey 7.00 Not Going Out 9.00 Mock the Week 11.00 Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled 12.00 QI XL 1.00 Not Going Out 1.40 Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled 2.40 Parks and Recreation 3.30 Deadly 60 4.00 Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 Tenko 11.00 Sharpe 1.00 Tenko 5.00 One Foot in the Grave 6.30 A Fine Romance 7.00 Hetty Wainthropp Investigates 8.00 Maisie Raine 9.00 Taggart 11.00 Waking the Dead 1.20 The Ruby in the Smoke 3.10 Hetty Wainthropp Investigates 4.00 Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Ninja Warrior 6.30 Futurama 8.15 Game Changers 8.45 The Fantasy Football Club 9.45 Soccer AM 11.30 Kong: Skull Island Special 12.00 Portrait Artist of the Year 2017 1.00 Modern Family 2.00 MacGyver 3.00 Gillette Soccer Saturday 6.00 Supergirl 7.00 The Flash 8.00 **FILM**: Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith (2005) (12) Sci-fi adventure

prequel, starring Hayden Christensen. 10.40 NCIS: Los Angeles 11.40 A League of Their Own 12.40 Duck Quacks Don't Echo 1.40 Police 10/7 5.10 Ninja Warri 5.35 Futurama

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 The West Wing 11.00 David Attenborough's Galapagos 2.00 Making Attenborough's Galapagos 3.00 Without a Trace 8.00 Blue Bloods 9.00 Game of Thrones 11.20 Last Week Tonight with John Oliver 11.55 Real Time with Bill Maher 1.05 High Maintenance 1.40 The Wire 2.50 Veep 4.00 Networks of Power with Sir Christopher Meyer

W SKY: 109

6.10 Beauty and the Beast 6.50 Million Dollar Intern 7.50 The Bill 12.50 EastEnders 3.20 **FILM**: Mr Stink. Family comedy, starring Hugh Bonneville. 4.40 The Boy in the Dress 6.00 My Family 8.00 Inside the Ambulance 9.00 **FILM**: The Dukes of Hazzard (2005) (12) Comedy, starring Seann William Scott and Johnny Knoxville. 11.05 Grimm 12.00 Outnumbered 1.20 Almost Human 2.15 Boston's Finest 3.00 Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

7.00 Cheers 8.00 Keeping Up Appearances 8.40 dinnerladies 10.00 Last of the Summer Wine 12.00 Boomers 12.45 Only Fools and Horses 4.00 **FILM**: Loc Who's Talking (1989) (12) Comedy, starring Kirstie Alley. 5.50 Only Fools and Horses 9.00 Men Behaving Badly 11.00 Bottom 11.40 Filthy, Rich and Catflap 12.20 Bottom Live 2.40 Bill Hicks - One Night Stand 3.15 jam 4.00 Home Shopping

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Football League Gold 6.45 Premier League Preview 7.15 Football Gold 7.45 Game Changers 8.15 Premier League Preview 8.45 The Fantasy Football Club 9.45 Soccer AM 11.30 Premier League Preview 12.00 Gillette Soccer Saturday 6.00 Live Under-20s Six Nations Rugby Union, England v Scotland (kick-off 6.15pm). 8.00 Rugby Gold 8.30 Nissan Game of the Day 10.30 Nissan Match Choice 11.30 Gary Neville: The Pundit 12.00 Premier League Highlights 1.30 Premier League Legends 2.00 Premier League Highlights 3.30 Premier League Legends 4.00 Premier League Highlights 5.30 Premier League Legends



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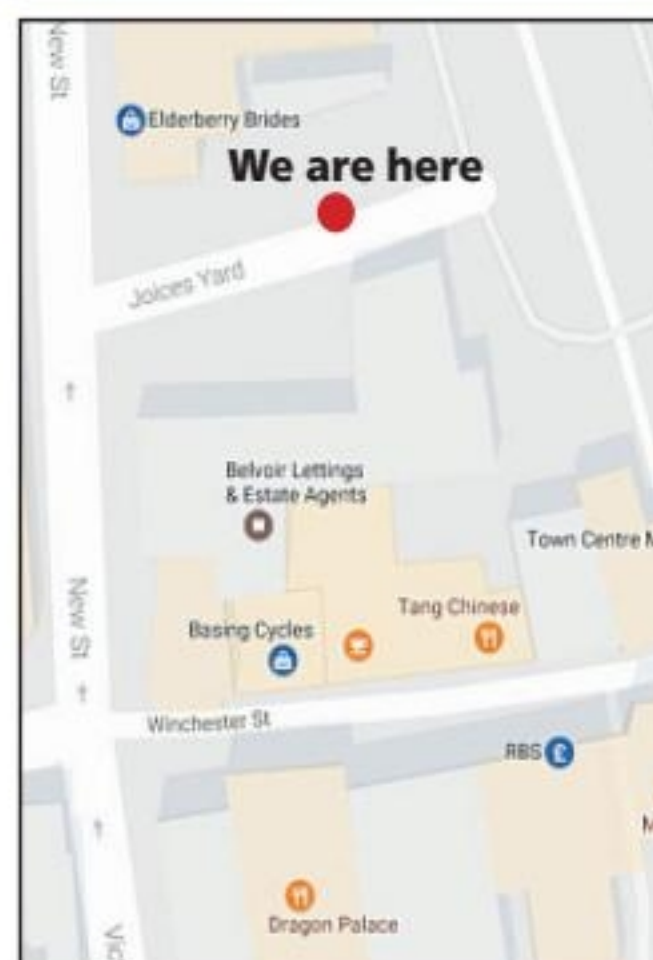
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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Toy soldier leads the invasion

By James Richings

THE '80s was an incredible decade for entertainment.

Michael Jackson's Billie Jean, Carless Whisper by George Michael and Irene Cara's Fame were just some of the biggest tunes of the time, which also saw the release of blockbusters such as ET, Die Hard and Ghostbusters.

It was really a great decade.

And now you have the chance to revisit the '80s when The 80s Invasion Tour stops off at The Anvil on Saturday, March 11.

The night will feature Paul Young, China Crisis, Toyah and Martika all taking a trip down memory lane.

But for Martika, her visit to the Churchill Way theatre will be a special one.

Not only will it be her debut in Basingstoke, but it will also be the American's first show in the UK for more than 25 years.

Performing tunes from her 1988 self-titled album and her 1991 record Martika's Kitchen, the 47-year-old revealed her excitement to the Observer.

"To be able to look into people's eyes and sing the songs with them is a lot of fun because, it means I played a

small part of people's lives and memories," she said.

"One of my songs can take them back to a certain part of their lives where they were really happy.

"So I just love what I do and it's a really special experience to have

"It's a huge privilege to be able to do it."

Martika burst onto the scene in the late '80s when her debut single More Than You Know peaked at number 18 in the US charts.

Receiving a lot of radio play across the pond, her next release Like Toy Soldiers in 1989 became her best-selling song to date.

It may have not got to the top spot in UK (it reached number five), but it did become one of the best-selling records of the year.

So Martika will not be surprised at which song gets the best reception when she arrives in Basingstoke.

"I think it (Like Toy Soldiers) will get the biggest cheer from the crowd because people will really connect with that song," she said.

"Whenever I've performed it everyone gets really happy when I do it.

"Being a music fan myself, I remember some of the concerts I've seen and how transported I was and



inspiring it was.

"You can really take that home with you and it really does make a difference to someone.

"I know my job is not as complex like a brain surgeon, but somebody has to do the performing arts.

"So I'm glad that I can be one of the people who gets to do that.

"Everyone has their job in the world and somebody has got to take them on an escape route occasionally.

"I want to take my audience away from reality even for just a brief moment in time, I know it will mean a lot."

Tickets cost £26.50 and the concert will start at 7.30pm.

Carrack in concert

MUSIC: Legendary musician Paul Carrack will be returning to The Anvil on Sunday, March 12.

The 65-year-old will be gigging at the Churchill Way venue for the third consecutive year, where the audience will hear tunes from his solo albums along with his hits with Mike + The Mechanics.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £32.

Ultimate country

MUSIC: The Country Superstars Experience will be at The Haymarket on Thursday, March 16.

Music from Patsy Cline, Johnny Cash, Billie Jo Spears, Kenny Rogers, Willie Nelson, Tammy Wynette, Garth Brooks, John Denver and Glen Campbell will be heard at the Wote Street venue.

Tickets cost £22 and it starts at 7.30pm.

Step into the '90s

MUSIC: The Harlington in Fleet will host a 90s night this Saturday, March 17.

90s Rewind will see the Fleet Road venue burst out some of the most popular tunes from the decade.

Tickets cost £15 and the show will begin at 8.30pm.

Barmy Army hits Basingstoke

By James Richings

THE ups and downs of two of former England captains will be told at The Anvil next Friday.

Friends David Gower and Chris Cowdrey will share their most thrilling, heart-breaking and comical stories when they were the skippers of the England Cricket Team.

Both cricketers were captains of The Three Lions during the 1980s.

"It's always a proud moment to be named England captain and then it gets tougher," David told the Observer.

"I certainly had those ups and downs but the highlights were leading England to a series win in India and then winning the Ashes in 1985 with plenty of my own runs thrown in.

"We might just talk about all that too."

Chris added: "For me, it was a highlight that soon became a lowlight, but we don't want to give too much away.

"Come to the show and you'll find out why."

Gower was captain of England from 1982 to 1989 with the 59-year-old being at the helm when the English defeated Australia in The Ashes in 1985, beating the Aussies 3-1 in the series.

Cowdrey on the other hand was only captain of England for one summer, where his sole appearance occurred in the summer of 1988.

• David Gower and Chris Cowdrey share some of their career highlights



England took on the West Indies in five test matches, with the encounter expected to be a close affair.

In fact it turned out to be a thrashing, as the English were hammered 4-1, with their only victory occurring in the final meeting.

Dubbed by many as 'the summer of

four captains', England strangely used four captains in the five Test matches.

The constant change of skipper played a huge part in the West Indies' victory, with Cowdrey captaining the third set.

The six-day match turned out to be a disaster for England, especially

for Cowdrey, as the then 30-year-old captained his side to a devastating defeat.

England lost the third set by 249 runs, handing the test victory to the West Indies.

And despite the defeat, Chris believes he was a better captain than David.

"We captained England 33 times between us although I think David captained 32 of them, and I was the better captain," Chris said.

David added: "At least one of us actually had a win ratio though.

"But we are entirely even on the win/loss percentages against the West Indies."

David also revealed why he licked his fingers after dealing with raw chicken on Sunday Brunch last month.

The clip was seen by millions of viewers and even got him trending on Twitter.

"The beetroot marinade was delicious," he said. "And the PR for this show that came from it was most welcome.

"Yes, it's not something one should do nor would I normally do it, but it's not as dangerous as facing Malcolm Marshall.

"I can only repeat what I said on Twitter at the time, 'So very, very sorry. Completely forgot to be ill...'"

Tickets cost £27 and it will start at 7.30pm.

That '80s show

COMEDY: Comedian Patrick Monahan will be at The Phoenix Theatre and Arts Centre on Friday, March 17.

The comic, who is Irish-Iranian, will share his tales at the Station Road venue about growing up in the '80s when his family left war-torn Iran.

It will begin at 8pm and tickets cost £14.

Oskar's journey

CHILDREN'S THEATRE: The family fun production of Oskar's Amazing Adventure will be performed at Bordon's Phoenix Theatre and Arts Centre on Saturday, March 18.

Oskar is a pup who lives at the top of the Alps, but when he goes out to play, he can't find any of his friends.

It lasts for 40 minutes and tickets cost £6.

Flying into Fleet

MUSIC: A covers band will be gigging at The Falkners Arms in Fleet on Saturday, March 11.

Moonfly will perform a variety of Motown, soul, disco and funk hits at the Falkners Close pub.

The free gig starts at 9pm.



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The Anvil, Basingstoke
OMID DJALILI

COMEDY

Award-winning comedian and actor Omid Djalili is back on the road with a nationwide tour.

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Sat, Mar 11, 7.30pm
The Anvil, Basingstoke
80'S INVASION TOUR 2017
Due to overwhelming public

demand, the 80's Invasion tour is back with four amazing artists from the decade performing on the same bill. The new line-up features Paul Young, one of the most popular solo artists from the era, pop punk princess Toyah, Liverpool's finest guitar duo China Crisis and performing in the UK for the first time in over 25 years, the gorgeous Martika

Sat, Mar 11, 7.45pm
The Forge, Basingstoke

ZOE LYONS
Winner of the Chortle Best Comic Award, Zoe Lyons (Live at the

COMEDY

Apollo, The John Bishop Show, Alan Davies As Yet Untitled, Mock the Week) hits the road with a brand new show.

Mon, Mar 13, 8pm

The Phoenix Theatre and Arts Centre, Bordon

PHIL JUPITUS

Join stand-up comedian, poet, improviser and TV stalwart Phill Jupitus as he tries out new material ahead of Edinburgh Fringe!

Tue, Mar 14 - Wed, Mar 15
Corn Exchange, Newbury

ROMEO & JULIET/ TWELFTH NIGHT

Romeo & Juliet sees young love in all its raw and savage beauty. The show drives through action-packed thrills and tender intimacy to crushing loss. Five actors blast the company's signature style of

urgency, humour and clarity to conjure a stirring, visceral theatrical experience. Twelfth Night Unlikely lovers collide in a tale of identical twins, multiple disguises and mistaken identities. Endless invention and boundless imagination create a production that proves raucous, witty and moving.

Tue, Mar 14, 7.30pm
The Haymarket, Basingstoke

SKERRYVORE

After a year of tenth anniversary celebrations in 2015, Skerryvore are back with their signature blend of eclectic musical styles. This 7-piece band are known for mixing everything from traditional folk and rock to pop and jazz, honing their sound over six albums and extensive worldwide touring since 2005. They come to Basingstoke fresh from a world tour delighting audiences in Holland, Germany, Italy and the USA as well as here in the UK, storming venues from the Shetland Islands to the south of England. There's never been a better time to dive in to their feel good fusion of energetic rock and traditional folk influences.

Thu, Mar 16, 7.30pm
The Haymarket, Basingstoke

THE COUNTRY SUPER-STARS EXPERIENCE

Sarah Jayne, who has been performing as Dolly Parton for over 24 years, and award-winning vocal impersonator Andy Crust take us on a journey back through time meeting some of the most influential figures who shaped Country history and the music.

Fri, Mar 17, 7.45pm

The Haymarket, Basingstoke

AN EVENING OF DIRTY DANCING

Now in its seventh record-breaking year, this five star homage to perhaps the greatest movie soundtrack of all time is a high energy emotional rollercoaster of an evening, with breath-taking choreography and buckets of nostalgia. Includes the unforgettable songs Big Girls Don't Cry, Hey Baby,

Wipeout, Do You Love Me? and many more. Put your dancing shoes on and get ready to have the time of your life! Please note this production is not affiliated with Dirty Dancing: The Classic Story On Stage on tour in the UK and worldwide.

Fri, Mar 17 - Tue, Mar 21
The Corn Exchange Cinema, Newbury

T2 TRAINSPOTTING

Two decades after director Danny Boyle's groundbreaking drama set in Edinburgh's dark, druggy underbelly, the four friends drawn from Irvine Welsh's novel return to make

amends... or seek revenge. Begbie (Robert Carlyle) has just been released from jail, Renton (Ewan McGregor) is making an emotional homecoming, and Sick Boy (Jonny Lee Miller) and Spud (Ewen Bremner) are awaiting them both with very mixed feelings.

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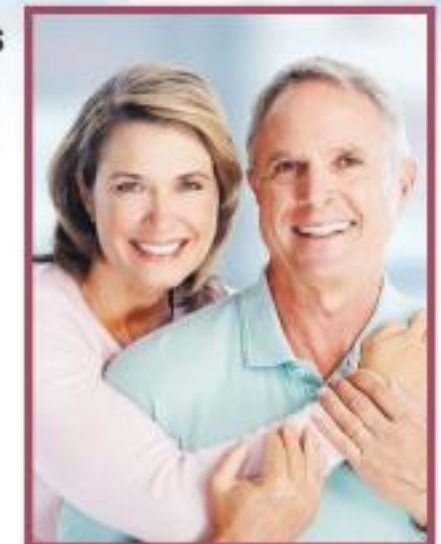
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Miles: 18,500
MOT: June 2017
Colour: Almond Green
Price: £3500

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23.03.17

Kia Rio Automatic



Year: 2003
Miles: 66,000
MOT: Mar 2018
Colour: Met Red
Price: £595

Kia Rio 1.3 5 Door Hatch, PAS, EW, CL, CD Player, service history, very clean for year. 07833 160856

5838027 / 30.3.17

Mazda MX-5 1.8



Year: 2004
Miles: 66,300
Colour: Silver
MOT: August 2017
Price: £2,595 ono

One lady owner with FSH (12 stamps in the service book) lots of receipts. Silver with black hood. PAS, EW, EM, Airbags, original R/C player, 5 spd. Recent work includes two new tyres, full vehicle inspection and a fortron engine flush. Cam-belt changed in Aug 2015. Body and hood in good condition. Tonneau cover and full outdoor MX 5 cover included. Two keys, V5 present. Tel. 01296 698535 or 07788 211644 (T)

Chevrolet Aveo



Year: 2009
Miles: 60,200
MOT: Mar 2018
Colour: Dark Blue
Price: £1,495 ono

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Ford Fiesta ST200 - a tweaked ST

By **Tony Yates**

AS a child I used to spend most of my weekends watching Bodie & Doyle strut their stuff on TV, whilst also watching them messing about doing handbrake turns and smoking the tyres around the streets of London in a selection of cars from the likes of British Leyland and Ford to

name but a few.

Of course as you get older - reality slips in and you realise it was all fake and just for the purpose of TV entertainment - but as a young boy, it didn't stop me spending many hours in my garden acting out scenes from the latest episode where I was the good guy in my Ford Fiesta XR2

chasing the baddies.

Even now 30 years on, Ford's ST200 has started to ignite all my senses and prove once again why Ford continues to dominate the 'Hot Hatch' arena.

Power and Efficiency

Powered by an 1.6 litre Eco Boost turbocharged petrol engine with 290Nm of Torque - 200PS of Ford Power, a 0-62 time of around 6.7 seconds and a top speed of around 142mph.

I also expected the little Fiesta to sound a little wheezy - but to be honest - I was wrong about that too. Because instead what you do get is something that sounds like the Knights Templars are having their own conquest right

under your seat. Take it from me; it really is the most wonderful noise you can hear bellowing from that Eco Boost engine.

On the Road

As with all of Ford's hot hatches - it changes direction like it's on rails and it holds the road like a F1 car on super sticky slicks. Don't get me wrong, it does have its faults. But when it comes down to getting it on - nothing on the road as small as the ST200 can even get close to how it handles on the twisty stuff.

Plus, Ford has also stiffened up the suspension and updated the front anti-roll bar, meaning the ST200 now feels more solid than a standard ST - which also helps improve the ride without the need for back surgery every few weeks.

Safety and Technology

On the inside you get Recaro seating and branded ST interior details - but I found the Sat-Nav/Radio far too complex. I am not joking either - I actually think it's more complex than a Rubik's Cube. But then again I am

not that tech savvy - so maybe I need to take in some training or read the handbook.

Also, as its the ST200 you also get a lot of additional features such as; cruise control, privacy glass, Thatcham Cat1 alarm, full ST bodystyling kit, unique ST200 badges, rain sensing wipers, auto headlights, puddle lamps, Mykey technology, 17" matt black alloys, Sony DAB radio, and a whole host of sophisticated systems including Electronic Torque Vectoring Control.

To Sum Up

Epic - but, I would buy the standard Fiesta ST - unless the ST200 really is your dream car.

Price from: £23,145



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Sheppard's delight at Long game



BASINGSTOKE Bison's head coach praised the versatility of Ciaran Long in helping his side to a four-point weekend.

The star forward played in defence on Saturday as the Herd beat Guildford Flames 4-2 at the Basingstoke Arena.

He then reverted to his normal position the following night to help his side to a shutout win away at the Sheffield Steeldogs.

After Sunday's game, Doug Sheppard said: "Credit to Tomas (Hiadlovsky) who earned his shutout tonight and is hitting good form at a really important time in the season.

"Also, I was impressed with Ciaran who played the weekend on defence for us with Dan (Lackey) and Joe (Baird) still out. He's having a great year for us."

Guildford have been a thorn in Bison's side all season, with Saturday representing the Herd's second win from their six fixtures in the English Premier League (EPL).

Sheppard added: "I'm impressed with the way we earned a good solid four points."

Senior Cup glory on the horizon for Town

By Christian Wilson

BASINGSTOKE Town's season could yet end with some silverware after they booked their place in the Hampshire Senior Cup final on Tuesday.

Two late goals from David Ray and Nana Owusu helped Terry Brown's side to a deserved 3-1 win over Winchester City to book a place in the final against AFC Bournemouth.

'Stoke won this competition for the sixth time in their history three seasons ago and were handed the perfect start with seven minutes on the clock as Charlie Kennedy flicked in Marcus Johnson-Schuster's cross.

And they continued to look the team more likely for the rest of a first half in which they dominated, with only a foul by Ray seeing an Aaron Redford bicycle kick chalked off.

But a massive stroke of luck then handed the Southern League Division 1 side a route back into the game seven minutes after the break as Johnson-Schuster sliced a Craig Feeney cross into his own net.

Basingstoke pushed and pushed after that disappointment and finally retook the lead in the 76th minute through captain Ray's diving header at the



Charlie Kennedy's early goal set Basingstoke on their way to victory (Picture by Daniel Murphy)

back post.

And Town then wrapped things up five minutes later with yet another moment of magic from Owusu, with the winger whipping a now trademark free kick into the top corner.

Things didn't go so far to plan on Saturday however, as Slough Town beat them 3-2 in the league.

Despite the result, the main talking point of the game happened in the 17th minute, when a collision between Owusu and Mark Scott left the Slough keeper with a broken neck.

Play was postponed for around 40 minutes while medical staff from both clubs treated the keeper on the pitch.

By that point it was already

1-0 to Slough through Chris Flood, with the former 'Stoke striker then grabbing a second when play resumed.

Redford pulled one back for the visitors after the break, before James Dobson quickly re-established the two goal lead.

And while Redford then pulled another one back, there was to be no late drama.

Driver Hogan delivers KO blow to ex-champs in dream run

PAUL Hogan went on a dream run in a major tournament for the second time in under two months at the weekend.

The Basingstoke darts player, pictured, pulled off a big upset to reach the second round of the BDO World Darts Championship in January.

But the amateur qualifier topped that achievement in spectacular fashion at the Coral UK Open by beating not one, but two, former two-time world champions on his way to the last 16.

Hogan started the tournament by beating young talents Keegan Brown and Jamie Lewis to set up a formidable tie against world number two Gary Anderson in the third round on Friday.

But the 53-year-old became the story of the day in Minehead by incredibly pulling off an 8-7 win to send shockwaves around the rest of the tournament.

Speaking after the match, he said: "Gary's a two-time world champion and one of the best

in the world so I didn't expect to win.

"That's one of the best wins I've ever had and I'm so happy."

The delivery driver was rewarded for his efforts with a fourth round clash with former champion Adrian Lewis the following day and amazingly secured a superb 10-6 win on double 18.

But eventual runner-up Gerwyn Price would prove too strong in the next round, as Hogan found himself on the wrong end of a 10-6 score.



Sport Bites

Daisy blooms...

MOTORSPORT: Basingstoke powerboat racer Daisy Coleman has added another trophy to her collection.

The Popley navigator and brother Sam made history last year by collecting a podium at every event of the P1 Powerboat Championship season on their way to the title.

And the duo repeated the performance at the weekend by claiming the NEXA P1 Powerboat Indian Grand Prix of the Seas world championship trophy.

...as Rose wilts

GOLF: Justin Rose was unable to repeat some of his recent good form as he slumped to a 38th placed finish at the WGC Mexico last week.

The north Hampshire golfer has claimed three top-four finishes this year since returning from a back injury.

But he finished 14 shots behind eventual winner Dustin Johnson, after carding rounds of 70, 72, 71 and 71 to end the tournament with an even score overall.

Ladies on top

HOCKEY: There were mixed results for Basingstoke Hockey Club's two first teams over the weekend.

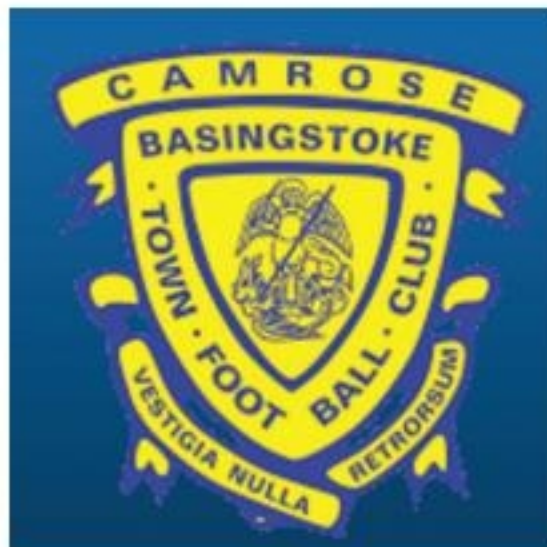
The men's 1sts were comfortably dispatched 4-1 away at Epsom 1sts, while the ladies' 1sts claimed a hard fought 1-0 victory at Banbury.

Arguably the best game of the weekend saw the men's 2nds draw 4-4 at home to Bournemouth on Saturday, with the ladies' side losing 6-2 at Haslemere.

And there were wins for each of the men's 4ths, ladies' 3rds and ladies' 4ths by scores of 1-0, 3-0 and 4-2 respectively.

Cup dream over

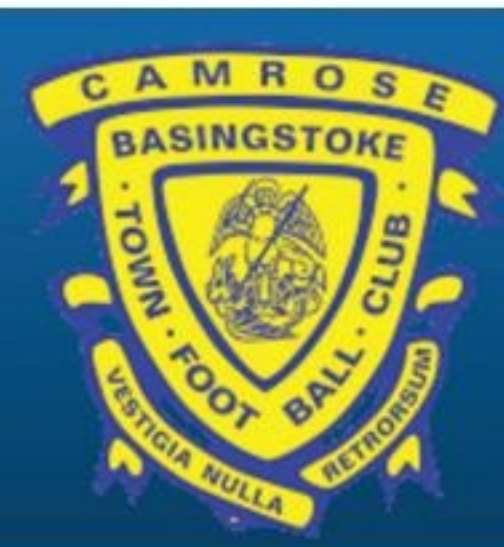
FOOTBALL: Hartley Wintney's dream of reaching the Hampshire Senior Cup final was cruelly ended by AFC Bournemouth on Tuesday night, as Gavin Kilkenny scored the only goal of the night in a 1-0 defeat.



UPCOMING HOME MATCHES

SATURDAY MARCH 11
BASINGSTOKE TOWN VS LEAMINGTON
15:00 KICK OFF

SATURDAY APRIL 1
BASINGSTOKE TOWN VS CHESHAM
15:00 KICK OFF



Inside: 'Stoke through to cup final | Darts ace Hogan knocks out big names in UK Open | Sheppard's praise for Ciaran Long

Four-point weekend gives Bison play-offs confidence

By Christian Wilson

THE English Premier League (EPL) play-offs look to be arriving at just the right time for Basingstoke Bison.

Wins over Guildford Flames and Sheffield Steeldogs at the weekend stretched the Stampede's run to four successive victories.

After watching Telford Tigers claim their EPL crown last month, head coach Doug Sheppard will be anxious for his side to do well in the post-season showdown when it begins on March 25.

But with just two games of the regular season remaining before then, Basingstoke's latest four-point weekend has left them within a point of third-placed Peterborough Phantoms.

And beating fierce rivals Guildford for just the second time this season will have also handed Basingstoke a big boost ahead of a possible clash in the play-offs in the coming weeks.

The Herd got off to the perfect start on Saturday night to take the lead with 4.33 on the clock, as Joe Rand fired through netminder Dean Skinns' pads to send the Basingstoke Arena into raptures.

But Bison were left thanking their goalie for keeping their lead up to the break, as Tomas Hiadlovsky made two tremendous saves to deny Danny Meyers and Tom Duggan.

But the Slovak then made a big mistake to give shorthanded Guildford an equaliser at 23.38, passing the puck straight to Michael Satek to score.

Things went from bad to worse four minutes later as the Flames this time capitalised on a one-man advantage to go ahead through Jens Eriksson.

Undeterred, Basingstoke came roaring back to turn the score on its head going into the final 20 minutes, thanks to their best 40 seconds of the match.

Still buzzing from Hiadlovsky denying a Flames two-on-one, Aaron Connolly first levelled the tie at 32.27 with a simple finish, before Dan Davies found the five-hole on the powerplay to make it 3-2. Tuomas Santavuori then missed a sitter at the back post as Guildford chased an equaliser that never arrived, before Rand claimed his second with 20 seconds left to confirm the win.

Things were much more comfortable the following night in Sheffield for the Stampede, as Hiadlovsky claimed a shutout in a 3-0 win.

Matt Towalski handed his side the lead just after 10 minutes from Joe Miller and Grant Rounding's assist and they never looked like surrendering it after that. Stuart Mogg and Miller both added their names to the score sheet.

Bison have a break this weekend before finishing the regular season with a double-header against Swindon.



• Aaron Connolly and Dan Davies celebrate the second goal from Joe Rand, centre. (Picture by grantkingphotography.com)

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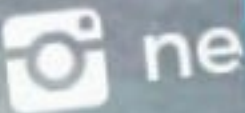
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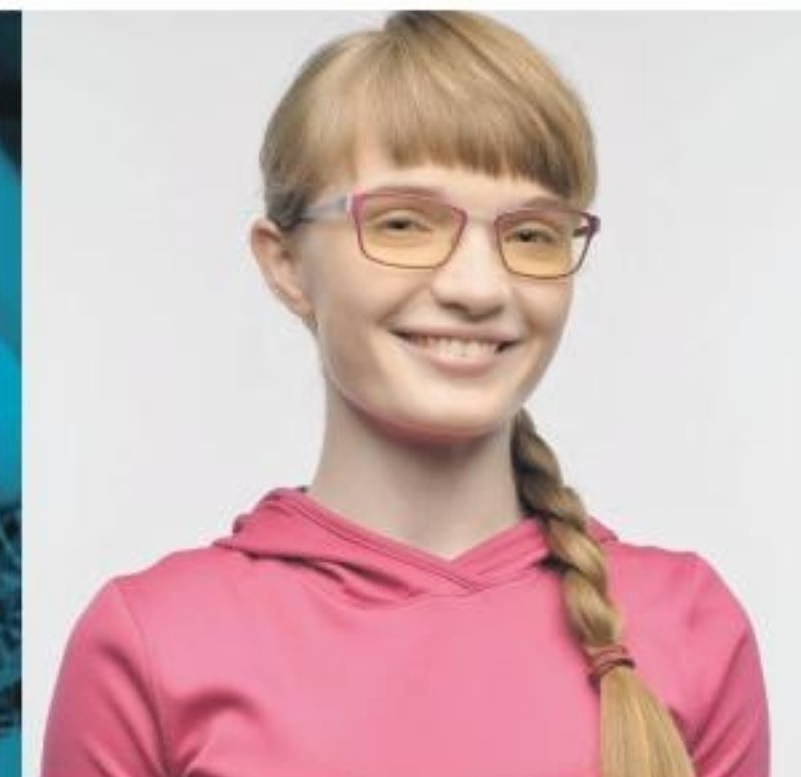
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